

**M.O.R.E. Commission
Municipal Mandates Sub-Committee
Pest Control Working Group
Report**

A consensus of the members of the Pest Control Working Group (Rep. Nicastro, Chair) recommend that the Municipal Mandates Sub-Committee add the following items to its 2014 list of recommendations to the Connecticut General Assembly:

- 1) That the Pesticide Advisory Council, as constituted in Connecticut General Statutes Section 22a-65(d), be utilized:
 - a. to review all new pesticides on a rolling basis for safety and effectiveness, and
 - b. to report its findings and recommend standards to the Commissioner of DEEP for consideration in making regulations
- 2) That DEEP, in consultation with the Pesticide Advisory Council, create, publish, and regularly update a set of best practices, including review of the Massachusetts IPM monitoring website, for use by municipalities regarding the safe and effective use of both synthetic and organic pesticides
- 3) That DEEP shall establish a regionalized purchasing mechanism for pest control products through which municipalities may obtain products for a reduced price

The members of the Pest Control Working Group discussed, but did not come to a consensus on the following items:

- 1) That there be a single standard for pesticide use by municipalities, rather than different standards for K-8 school fields and other municipal fields
- 2) That 2013 Senate Bill 917 be re-introduced and considered by the General Assembly during the 2014 session
- 3) That Connecticut adopt New York law surrounding the use of certain pesticides to control poison ivy
- 4) That restrictions on the use of pesticides with EPA numbers be relaxed

Connecticut General Statutes Section 22a-65(d):

(d) The commissioner shall establish a Pesticide Advisory Council consisting of, but not limited to, the director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Commissioner of Public Health, and the dean of the college of agriculture of The University of Connecticut or their respective designees. The council shall meet at least annually and the commissioner may consult with the Pesticide Advisory Council on technical matters involving the application and use of pesticides, the determination of imminent hazards and the unreasonable adverse effects on the environment before promulgating regulations or orders in carrying out this part, subsection (a) of section 23-61a and sections 23-61b and 23-61f.

SB 917 - OLR Bill Analysis

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CERTAIN MICROBIAL AND BIOCHEMICAL PESTICIDES AND GRUB CONTROL PRODUCTS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.

SUMMARY:

The law generally prohibits the application of lawn care pesticide on the grounds of any day care center, or public or private preschool or school with students in grade eight or lower, except in a health emergency.

This bill exempts the following products from the definition of "lawn care pesticide," thus allowing their application on the grounds of day care centers and these schools:

1. microbial or biochemical pesticides;
2. horticultural soaps or oils without synthetic pesticide or synergist (enhancer of pesticide properties); and
3. grub control products without a caution, warning, or danger indication on their product labels.

The products must be registered with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to qualify under the exemption.

Current law defines "lawn care pesticide" as a pesticide that is registered with the EPA and labeled according to federal law for use in lawns, gardens, and ornamental sites.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

MICROBIAL AND BIOCHEMICAL PESTICIDE

Under the bill, a "microbial pesticide" is a pesticide containing a microorganism as the active ingredient, and a "biochemical pesticide" is a naturally occurring substance that controls pests by nontoxic means.

For purposes of the law on pesticide application at day care centers and schools, a "pesticide" is a fungicide used on plants, insecticide, herbicide, or rodenticide, but not a sanitizer, disinfectant, antimicrobial agent, or pesticide bait.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 0 (03/04/2013)